

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 12 and 14 to correct minor informalities. Accordingly, claims 12-24 and 27-28 remain pending in the application.

Reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested in view of the following Remarks.

DOUBLE PATENTING

The Office Action rejects claims 12-24 and 27-28 variously on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. patent 6,614,685, either alone or in combination with other cited references.

In order to advance the prosecution of the application to an early allowance, and without conceding or refuting the merits of those rejections, Applicant hereby submits the accompanying "Terminal Disclaimer" over U.S. patent 6,614,685.

Accordingly, the application should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing explanations, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and reexamine the present application, allow claims 12-24 and 27-28, and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (571) 283-0720 to discuss these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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